

ABSTRACT

Background and objectives:

Utility of serial serum lactate measurement to find patients in occult hypotension and its use in treating critically sick patients.

Design:

Prospective non interventional⁵ observation study in RGGGH.

Method:

50 patients admitted with either trauma or suspected sepsis, whose intensive care unit admission is more than 48 hours, were followed till mortality or icu stay >7 days or <7 days. Serial serum lactate measured at 0th, 12th, 24th, 36th hour in all 50 patients. Serum lactate level and the patient outcome were compared.

Result:

Serum lactate at zero hour ($p=0.000$), 12th hour($p=0.000$), 24th hour($p=0.000$) and 36th hour($p=0.000$) were statistically more accurate in predicting the outcome of the critically ill patient. Serum lactate is an individual prognostic factor and is useful to identify sick patients early, before MODS sets in.